

May 12, 2003

Mr. Thomas Baillieul, Director
U.S. Department of Energy
Columbus Closure Project
1425 Plain City-Georgesville Rd.
West Jefferson, OH 43162

Dear Mr. Baillieul:

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS (May 3-9, 2003)

I. Operations:

Building JN-1:

Work continued on Work Instruction (WI) -1158, Decontamination and Stabilization of the Hot Equipment Storage Room. The area was stabilized with a polyurea coating.

Work continued on WI-1159, Utility Removal in the JN-1A Controlled Access Area (CAA) and Old Back Dock (OBD) and Old Operations Area.

The laundry/personal protective equipment shipment was completed on May 7, 2003, as scheduled.

Asbestos is being removed by AHC, Inc., in the Alpha Gamma Cell (AGC) area, the CAA, and the OBD.

Removal of utilities from the AGC area continued. (WI-1189)

Cutting and removing crane rail sections from the cell were completed. All of the waste was wrapped and packaged. Hazardous materials have been removed from the 1-ton crane, and it has been packaged per waste management procedures. (WI-1099)

A purchase order was issued to Sauer to perform mechanical and electrical work in the JN-1 pump room. WI-1149 was approved for relocating the compactor from the Charpy Cell and establishing the waste management area.

Building JN-3:

Water is being continually pumped from under the JN-3 basement via the wells and pumps installed in the Pump Room and around the reactor pool.

JN-4 Isolation Plan:

As a result of a higher than expected cost proposal, a meeting was conducted with Sauer to discuss options for completion of utility relocation. A decision to accept the Sauer proposal or competitively bid the work will be made in the next week.

Bids were received from two electrical contractors to perform electric utility work. DynaElectric appeared to be the lowest qualified bidder.

A meeting was held with four potential bidders to discuss the JN-4 Road Isolation Plan. A draft statement of work was prepared and issued for review.

Building JN-6:

Efforts resumed (depending on weather) on re-roofing the JN-6 building (WI-1119).

Transuranic (TRU) Waste Storage:

A conference call was conducted with Battelle, DOE, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to discuss the license amendment for construction of a TRU waste staging area. The NRC recommended to Battelle to submit a plan in writing for their review.

A review of the Environmental Assessment for the BCLDP determined that it provided sufficient National Environmental Policy Act coverage for a new TRU waste staging area.

TRU Waste Shipping:

Plans were finalized for a meeting with Fluor Hanford to discuss receipt at the Hanford site of BCLDP mixed TRU waste, contact handled TRU waste, and use of the 72-B cask.

Saxton Waste Project:

Mock-up materials were assembled for the repackaging of the rod. Work began on preparation of two WIs to address the repackaging efforts.

West Jefferson (WJ) External Areas:

Ground water is continuing to be pumped from the wells on the exterior of JN-3.

Low Level Waste (LLW) Operations:

Ten cubic feet (10 ft³) of compactable LLW were accepted for packaging. Non-compactible low-level debris from radioactive materials areas in JN-1 was packaged into B-25 boxes and IP-2 Sealand containers, for a total volume of 432 ft³ (409 ft³ for Envirocare of Utah disposal and 23 ft³ for Hanford Nuclear Facility disposal).

Approximately five cubic yards (135 ft³) of soil removed from the pipe trench in the old JN-1 chemistry lab were packaged into disposable bags for radiological free-release or Envirocare disposal.

One IP-1 intermodal box of LLW soil was shipped to Envirocare for disposal. Total volume of LLW shipped was 540 ft³.

One mildly contaminated leaded glass HEC window was shipped to Hot Cell Services in Kent, WA, for decontamination and reuse/recycle. This action avoided over \$9,500 in waste disposal fees.

WIDE Technology Deployment:

The advance copies of the injection and extraction procedures are in review. (WI-984) Engineering modifications to extract water from the field continues as parts are received. Equipment operational tests are nearly complete. WI-1132 for extraction testing is in review.

II. Environmental Safety and Health Performance:

Safety performance is 227 days and 158,730 exposure hours without a lost time injury accident.

III. Facilities and Equipment:

Daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and maintenance for the WJ North facility alarms, instrumentation, building functions, tickler system, and grounds were completed. The evaporator is turned off. The Characterization and Waste Management Sealand containers between JN-1 and JN-4 are being emptied to relocate them. Staff assisted with many site tours throughout the week. A meeting was held to discuss JN-1 HEPA system reroutes to maintain building negative pressure during removal/decontamination of existing contaminated HEPA ducting.

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Page 4 of 4

IV. Future Work Activities:

Attached is the projected work schedule for the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Patrick Weaver, P.E., Manager
Operations

PJW:dew/dmk